

DAILY FEATURES  
SOCIAL EVENTS  
PERSONAL NOTES

# THE WOMAN'S SPHERE

EDITED BY MISS M. R. SHERWOOD

NEWS OF CLUBS  
FASHIONS  
SHOPPER'S GUIDE

## Diary of a Fashion Model

By GRACE THORNCLIFFE

Solving the Problem of a Very Unusual Spring Suit

I HAPPENED into the fitting room in time to hear Madame say: "It was Talleyrand, I think who declared that many a reputation has been ruined by the shrug of a pair of shoulders. But if you don't stop shrugging yours, Julie, that suit will be ruined. M. Jacques is trying to work out that fulness between the shoulders which is an impossible task as long as you wriggle about like an eel."



Novel Tailored Suit and Hat.

M. Jacques was fitting the jacket of a tailored suit, and even if I hadn't heard Madame say that it had been designed for Miss Nash I would have known it. There was a certain air of the "unusual" about the suit that is characteristic of all her clothes; smart features of trimming that simply screamed "Florence Nash" at one.

The material was an English cloth, medium light in weight, of a dark navy blue.

The smartness of the suit depended almost entirely upon the box coat, which hung loosely from Julie's shoulders in slightly flaring lines.

I had to "look twice" before I discovered that the long sleeves were of the kimono type, which perfectly did them fit about the shoulders.

Instead of using buttons and buttonholes to fasten the coat, Madame introduced the idea of straps drawn through slashes and buttoned to the coat at each of the pointed ends. Two slashes bound with cloth were arranged on each side of the front just above the normal waistline.

The patch pockets were designed to correspond. Each side of the top was continued to form a pointed strap, which was drawn through two bound slashes and buttoned to the body of the coat.

An Eton collar of white pique was used to finish the neckline. A cravat of black moire ribbon, tied in a small bow, added a smart touch of trimming to the coat.

Madame chose pussy willow taffeta in a dark blue and white Harlequin design for the lining.

When the skirt was turned up the proper length M. Jacques expressed his satisfaction with its lines. It is an ultra-fashionable model, having that extremely narrow, drawn-in effect that's becoming exceedingly popular.

The waistline is finished with a strap belt of the material that harmonizes with the trimming on the coat.

When the suit had been fitted Madame asked me to tell M. Jacques to come down for instructions about the hat.

When Marcelle appeared she said to her:

"I wanted you to see the color of the suit, as the hat must harmonize perfectly. Make the hat small with a tam-o'-shanter crown of dark blue silk-brained with blue soutache. The narrow brim should be a modified mushroom with a facing of sand-colored silk or straw braid. Keep the top of the hat dark blue and trim the base of the crown with a band of braiding. Please begin the hat at once since the suit is to be delivered tomorrow afternoon."

Then Madame left the fitting room to look after the things in the studio, and I followed close at her heels to do the "modelling."

## This Smart Tunic Is "Doty" but Attractive



Cool, comfortable and distinctive is this summer frock. It is made of blue and white polka dot voile. The tunic part is in white with blue polka dots, while the rest has a background of blue. The sleeves are entirely white. The small white satin belt is very neat and adds attraction to the frock.

## MAKE INVALIDS COMFORTABLE AT HOME

When the invalid comes home from the hospital there will be a more or less protracted period of convalescence and her room—or his room as the case may be—should be prepared with the little comforts that make the tedious period of regaining health as pleasant as possible.

The first consideration, of course, is the bed in which the convalescent will spend so many hours; equally important is the chair which will be the bed's alternate. Put the very best springs and mattress in the house on the invalid's bed and supply it with plenty of light, warm blankets. Heavy blankets and comforters are a burden to the person of low vitality, but warmth with lightness is essential.

Have plenty of pillows, too, low rather than firm sleeping pillows, and big pillows that may be piled one on the other for sitting up or reading in bed. And if possible, place the bed diagonally—in a corner of the room—where there will be space on both sides, and where the invalid can look out of a window for diversion.

A screen should be drawn across this window at night to keep drafts from the bed. A table on the other side of the bed will hold the little comforts and necessities that an invalid is always wanting and hesitates to ask for, because of troubling people—handkerchiefs, Cologne, writing pad and pencil, jug and glass for iced water, a favorite photograph, etc. And if the invalid is feminine, a hand mirror.

Be sure that the invalid's chair is really an easy chair, supporting the body perfectly in every position. A rocker that tips forward demanding a continued bracing of feet and knees is torture to one weakened by illness. A Morris chair, luxuriously comfortable in health, may be too low for an invalid, especially one who has undergone a serious operation.

Such a one shrinks from letting herself down into the low chair because of the certain effort necessary to pull up out of it later. An old-fashioned grandmother's rocker, tipped well back and softly padded, is usually the most comfortable chair for invalidism.

### SOMEER SHADES

Over in Paris black has been so universally worn by women of all classes during the last two years that the influence of the mode could not fail to be felt in America. Black velvet and tulle evening gowns are extremely fashionable, and there are many black satin afternoon frocks. But the prevailing shade for wartime over here promises to be taupe, for day costumes at least. Taupe is rather impossible as a daylight costume unless the material be tulle, picked out with flame or coral here and there. But as a color for street and general afternoon wear taupe seems to fulfill all the conditions of the moment. It is dignified, it is rich without being too sumptuous, as some of the wine and plum shades are for ordinary daily occasions. It is universally becoming and it has that suggestion of somberness which expresses sentiment in these trying days. All Paris in black, some of it mourning black, some of it sympathetic black and some of it black just because every one else is wearing black, is most depressing to the spirit.

Before adding vinegar to mint for sauce always add a pinch of salt. This prevents the mint from going brown and greatly improves the flavor.

## AUTHORS' CLUB EXPECTS TO JOIN MINUTE WOMEN

Eastern Star Sewing Circle Is Doing Red Cross Work

OFFICIAL PICTURES SHOWN FOR WEEK

Miss Hewitt Addresses Sociology Class at Normal School

Mrs. Gerald H. Beard will be the hostess for the regular meeting of the Authors' Club at her home on Barnum avenue on Friday afternoon. The members will meet at 2:30 o'clock for Red Cross work as has been their custom all winter. Many of the members teach in the schools and those who do not usually arrive at the meetings until 4 o'clock and are asked to be as prompt as possible, as at 4 o'clock Mrs. H. Willard Fleck, chairman of the committee of Women's Activities of the National Council of Defense for Bridgeport, is to be present and will make an address on the "Minute Women." She will outline the general plan of organization and show how very useful an organization of this kind can be at the present time. It is expected that the Authors' Club will join the "Minute Women" as a unit. Just what special work they will undertake has not been decided as yet. Every woman in the city should be enrolled and the clubs are gradually coming into line. After Mrs. Fleck's talk, Mrs. Beard will have the paper of the afternoon on Kipling's "Kim."

There will be a regular meeting of Elias Howe Post, No. 3, G. A. R., tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock in G. A. R. hall at 925 Main street.

The Sewing Circle of Orient Chapter, O. E. S., is to meet tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock with Mrs. F. E. Hasbrouck at her home on Golden Hill street. This body of women has relinquished its regular work for the winter and devotes each Thursday afternoon to Red Cross work.

Under the auspices of the Connecticut State Council of Defense, there will be an exhibition of the United States and British governments' official moving pictures of the world war shown at the Casino which started on Monday evening and will continue each evening at 8 o'clock until next Monday. It is the first time these films have been shown in this city and the attendance at these meetings is confined to workers, male and female, employed on government work.

The official United States government pictures which will be shown were taken by the signal corps operators and show the extent of America's war preparations. The British films are actual scenes of British land and naval warfare. Preceding the exhibition of the films, a graphic and intensely interesting address will be given by Sergeant Arthur Gibbons of the Third Canadian Infantry. Sergeant Gibbons was wounded at the battle of Ypres and held a prisoner behind the German lines. His experiences, coupled with his engaging personality, will give his audience a clear understanding of conditions actually existing on the battle front. Patriotic music and singing will be furnished during the meetings.

A most delightful surprise was tendered to Mrs. Heaton Barnes at her home, 426 Harnall avenue, Tuesday, February 4th, in honor of her birthday anniversary. Mrs. Barnes, who is president of the First Spiritualist church, in returning from a lecture tour through eastern Massachusetts found a large circle of friends gathered to do her honor. Upon going to the dining room she found a table groaning under the weight of good things provided with due regard to food conservation. Before tackling the "menu" Mr. Conger was called on and in his usual happy manner presented the lady with an envelope containing a good sum of the "needful." Mrs. Barnes replied with much feeling. Among those present we recall the following: Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Pitt, Mrs. Loveridge, Mrs. Conley, Mrs. Warren, Miss Phyllis Barnes, Miss Vogel, Miss Duckworth, Mrs. Bierhom, and others. Mr. Heaton Barnes, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Furness, Mr. Warren, Mr. Strong, Mr. Conley, Mr. Weidholm and others. The party disbanded at a reasonable hour wishing Mrs. Barnes many returns of the day.

A very pleasant surprise party was tendered Miss Edith Litorin last night at her home, 444 Poplar street, when a large number of the young people and members of the Sunday school of the First Swedish Baptist church, of which Rev. Litorin is pastor, assembled to celebrate her birthday anniversary. She was the recipient of a handsome brooch from her class of seven boys and later in the evening Alfred Geyer, president of the Young People's society, presented her with a beautiful gold watch, on behalf of those present and her many friends in appreciation of her hard and faithful work in the promotion of several branches within the church. The evening was spent in merry making and both vocal and musical selections were rendered, after which a buffet luncheon was served. Miss Litorin proved a very charming hostess and at a late hour the guests departed wishing her many happy returns of the day.

Miss R. L. Hewitt addressed the members of the Sociology class at the City Normal school yesterday afternoon outlining the work that is being done by the Bridgeport Protective Association. She outlined a number of her experiences in New York city

## Conservation Doesn't Apply to Hats for Spring



If this model is a sample of the next season's trend in hats it is pretty certain that conservation of materials is not going to apply to hats. The designers don't care how large they make their creations and if all they results will turn out as pretty as this charming hat, few will wish to curtail them. Though designed for spring this exquisite hat is just the thing for those who intend to spend the rest of the winter far below the Mason-Dixon line. It is of black and white voile, with a brim of black straw.

## PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Bakeslee of Pacific street are visiting at the home of Mrs. Bakeslee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. LaSalle Lustig, on Smith street, West Haven.

Miss Sophie Raphael of this city is visiting for a time at the home of Miss Wilhelmina Gough on Townsend avenue, Morris Cove.

Miss Ruby Beardsley of Woodbury is spending a few days at the home of her brother, Clifford Beardsley, in Fairfield.

Miss Myrna Shawlow, who has sung here at recitals of Mrs. Susan Hawley Davis, and whose beautiful soprano voice has been the subject of the most favorable comment wherever she has sung, is a member of the Chicago Grand Opera company now playing a limited engagement at the Lexington theatre in New York city. Quite a number had the pleasure of meeting Miss Shawlow while she was in this city and they will be delighted to learn of her well merited success.

Mrs. John Hart and Miss Eunice Hart spent the past week end in Woodbury as the guests of Mrs. Hart's brother, Frank Galpin.

Friends in this city of Edwin H. Pineday, M. D., will be pleased to hear that he has been promoted to a sergeant in the hospital department of the 23rd Infantry now in France.

Mrs. Henry P. Henshaw and Mrs. Archibald McNeil, who have been at Palm Beach, Florida, were expected to return to this city this week. Mrs. Henshaw expects to make her home at The Stratford for the rest of the winter.

Mrs. Frank C. Hunt is to be the hostess for the regular meeting of the Thimble club at her home on Clinton avenue tomorrow afternoon. The club is occupied in making layettes and capes and aprons for the war babies and the French orphans, taking up this branch of the Red Cross work.

Mrs. Louis K. Gould will be the hostess on Friday morning for the regular meeting of the English Literary club.

## ETIQUETTE

A young lady who wishes to be polite will be just as considerate of her escort at the dance as she expects him to be of her. She will not allow any other young man to monopolize her, especially by sitting out dances in dimly lighted corners.

Janet—since you are just learning to dance, and are as yet far from expert, it would be kind and considerate of you to tell each gentleman who asks you to dance that you are a beginner and that you will allow him to recall his invitation if he does not feel up to the ordeal of dancing with you. This is not only polite, but it is also usually diplomatic, as it is a sure way to make him really wish to help you to learn. It is not customary to take your escort's arm when entering a ballroom nor when crossing the room, excepting in a grand march.

and also in the Hudson Training school. The class was deeply interested in what she had to say and is going to take time to inspect the school and learn still more about the work.

Madame Marie Sundell, who has appeared before the Wednesday Afternoon Musical Club for two recitals is to sing the lead this evening at the performance of Francesca da Rimini at the Metropolitan Opera House this evening. Quite a number of Bridgeporters have seats for the opera.

Members of the Holden Memorial Circle of Olivet church were very much pleased with the new home of the Bridgeport Protective Association which they inspected last night. Miss Hewitt explained to them the management of the house and showed the division of the accounts. Last year the cost for a meal averaged 13 1-5th cents. After the inspection a most palatable cafeteria lunch was served the guests.

## Incidents in the Lives of World-Famous Women

By ELOISE FARRINGTON

How an Ancient Heroine Married "Her Enemy" and Ended a Feud

XIMENA GOMEZ was the daughter of the Count of Ovideo and the wife of Don Rodrigo Diaz de Bivar, called the Cid, the favorite hero of Spain and the most prominent figure in Spanish literature.

Don Diego, the venerable father of the Cid, held a high position at court, and it so happened that he fell into a dispute with Don Gomez, a powerful warrior, the father of Ximena. In a moment of cowardly anger the hot headed Count of Ovideo struck Don Diego on the cheek. The old courtier was too feeble to avenge himself, and returned to his home to brood over the insult that had befallen him, and that threatened to embitter the rest of his life.

His son Rodrigo was at that time only a youth, but he deeply resented the affront offered to his house. Taking his father's sword he challenged the count. They fought, and Don Gomez paid for the wrong done to Don Diego with his life.

Dona Ximena, who loved her father devotedly, lived in the strictest seclusion until the period of mourning had passed. Then, one day, she sent a messenger to court asking the king, Don Fernando of Castile and Leon, to grant her a private audience. The lovely daughter of Don Gomez had ever been a favorite with the Spanish monarch, and he sent word for her to come immediately to the palace.

Accompanied by two of her ladies, Ximena hastened to obey the summons of the king. After the customary words of greeting had been exchanged Fernando said:

"What special mission brings you to me, my daughter? Speak freely of whatever is on your mind, for I would be of service to you."

Much to the surprise of the king, Dona Ximena knelt before him, saying: "You sire, contract all marriages at court. I beg of you to offer my hand in marriage to Don Rodrigo Diaz."

"What strange idea is this?" gasped the king. "You desire to wed the man who killed your father?"

"Sire," answered the girl, her beautiful eyes filling with tears, "my father did wrong to strike the venerable Don Diego, and I desire to show Don Rodrigo that I forgive him the sorrow he brought upon our house, and thus end the feud between the two families."

"Don Rodrigo, I know, is destined to be one of the greatest men of your majesty's kingdom, which is another reason for my desire to marry him. Do you know of one better fitted to be the husband of Ximena Gomez?"

The king agreed with Ximena, and consented to present the matter to

Don Rodrigo. Fernando sent for the young man to come immediately to the palace, and told him of his desire that he should choose Dona Ximena for his bride. Rodrigo gladly consented to wed the lovely daughter of his enemy.

The king hastened the elaborate preparations for their betrothal.



"What Strange Idea Is This?"

When Ximena, resplendent in her richly jeweled robes, was led forth by Fernando, her beauty dazzled the eyes of Don Rodrigo. Blushing, the young champion stood before her, and bowing low said:

"Ximena, I slew your sire, but in a fair fight. He wronged my father, and I did but wipe out the wrong. Fair lady, by God's grace, then shall have an honored husband to take the place of thy father."

Then Ximena placed her hand within his as answered simply:

"Let us blot out the sorrows of both our houses by joining our lives in a marriage of love and happiness."

"It shall be as you say," joyfully replied the Cid. "From now on your will is always mine, my lovely Ximena."

The king, followed by Rodrigo and Ximena, led the way to the royal chapel, where the betrothal ceremony was performed by the archbishop. Shortly afterward the wedding was celebrated with great pomp and splendor, the entire kingdom joining in the festivities, which lasted ten days. Ximena never regretted having chosen the Cid for her husband, as their wedded life was one of true happiness and love.

## Reliable Recipes

### ENGLISH SHORTCAKE

Make a rich pie crust (put a little baking powder in mine), put currants in and roll out. Bake in round pans or cut in strips. They are very nice hot, with butter or jelly. Any crust left when making pies can be used in the same way.

### SOUTHERN DISH

Get 2 pounds of bottom of the round steak, put through meat chopper with one medium-sized onion, add to this one cup of rice which has been thoroughly washed season with salt and pepper; now make into little cakes and lay on bottom of kettle; pour over all 2 cups of boiling water and cook slowly for 1 hour; then add 1 can of tomatoes, butter the size of an English walnut and cook a little faster for another hour. Then it is ready to serve.

### FIG COMPOTE

Wash some large figs, make an incision in the side of each and fill with chopped walnuts and a little grated orange rind; cover with boiling water, simmer until tender, skim out, place on rounds of sponge or delicate cake and surround with whipped cream slightly sweetened and flavored with vanilla or almond.

### ESCALOPED ONIONS

Take five or six onions, peel them and cut them into slices and boil until tender in water, with a little salt. When onions are done, put them in and use bread crumbs in the place of crackers. After the dish is filled add enough milk to make it the same as bread pudding. Put slices of butter on the top.

### STUFFED DATES

One pound of sugar dates (stoned), 3-4 pound walnuts (with shell on), 1 neufchatel cheese. Put nut meats through food chopper and then mash with cheese until thoroughly mixed. Then stuff dates with the mixture and roll in coarse sugar.

### APPLE SAUCE

Wiping red apples and discarding all bad places, cut them up, skins, cores and all, add little water and when the color is out of peeling put in a small piece of butter, thin pinch of salt and sugar to taste. Strain through a wire strainer and think you will be pleased with result, both in taste and looks.

## WOMAN CAUSED CELEBRATED SCANDAL

The Countess of Lamotte was the principal actor in the affair of the necklace, which caused annoyance and injury to Marie Antoinette, Queen of France. The countess, an immoral, intriguing woman, suddenly, from great poverty, became wealthy. The means by which this occurred was as follows: The countess, knowing of the desire of Prince Louis de Rohan to regain favor at court, told him that the queen, with whom she said she was confidential, wished to obtain a diamond necklace, then for sale, but not having sufficient funds available at the moment, would like him to purchase the necklace as if for himself, and the queen would repay him by instruments and restore him to favor. The Prince bought and gave the necklace to the countess Lamotte for the queen, who in return gave him a forged bond. This was in August, 1784. When the time for payment on the necklace arrived the Prince was unable to meet the demand, but ex-

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

So many people fail to recognize the decorative qualities to be found in the use of the all-year-round flower boxes. And there is no doubt at all that flowers make a room look more cozy and home-like. Consult a florist regarding the sort of flowers which will grow well in your window, and consult the necessary window box. Your room will be a more beautiful and a livable place.

The floating tulle sleeve is still in high fashion. This short piece of arm covering that is often cut in one with the bodice does not dominate the situation, but if you ask anyone who knows the very inside fashions, you will be told that the plain velvet or satin sleeve which partly covers the arm is a neck ahead in the race for the blue ribbon.

plained to the jewelers that the necklace had been bought for the queen. The jewelers brought the matter to the attention of the court, and the fraud was uncovered. The Prince de Rohan was tried and acquitted. The countess was sentenced to be scourged, branded and imprisoned for life. She escaped to England, where she died.

FUNERAL BOUQUET AND DESIGNS  
JOHN RECK & SON

## Smart Millinery

### SMART HAT

The smartest sort of a hat is rather out of the ordinary in its color scheme being brilliant red and black and its brim is a shiny black visca, so shiny that it has almost the effect of being braided patent leather. This brim starts out to be a straight sailor and then suddenly juts up in the front in a little triangle which is charming. Onto the base of the visca crown, which is uncovered to a depth of about two inches, is built a straight crown of bright red, and for this is used coarse gingham. A band about an inch in width also of the gingham is used as a ribbon woven to be encircle the crown and tie in a little bow in the front where the other unique trimming appears a single branch of two cherries and a green leaf.

### STRAIGHT BRIM SAILOR

A straight brim sailor, the brim quite narrow, has a high crown around the base of which are shaggy novelty flowers in rocco colorings. The hat is light as a feather and very soft, as the sharp turning back upon itself of the edge proves. This occurs at the right, the turn being flat and only four or so inches in along the brim.

### RED HAT

Another touch of red is a hat which is narrow and extremely long, the back wider than the front and the rather high crown concealed from the front and side views by a huge red wing. Milan is used for this clever pressed shape, which has a flange of self colored crepe finished at either edge by a cording. It may be remarked that many of the pattern hats displayed to date are of Milan, although the tendency is not strong enough to indicate that rough straws would be secondary since an equal number are made of coarse braids, some resembling the baskets one buys filled with figs.

## The New Clothes

Very smart models are in combination of tricolette and serge, the skirt of the latter fabric.

High class suits for spring embraces practical and youthful style qualities rather than ostentatious attractiveness.

A one-sided suit has but one ever turned back toward the right on the centerback slash of skirt section and a left side-back gore with extending end which serves for belt, terminating at right-side front.

Military blue tricolette is developed into a sleeveless, double-breasted coat with split cape reaching to below waistline which is lined with red cross red silk.

Waistlines are not staple on the majority of new spring coats, their placements vary in accord with the style of garment.

Open bosoms are featured on some chic suits in order that the new tailored blouses may be revealed to full advantage.

Tricolette is to be exploited with greater fervor than ever in suit circles.

New draped silk skirts employ the Spanish shawl drape ideas.

Sleeveless bolero blouses to be worn with Eton jacket dresses and suits have appeared in the market.

Roman and regimental stripes are newest thing in silk sweaters.

## HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Dissolved in a little ammonia salt will remove grease spots.

A smoky or dull fire can be made clear by throwing a handful of salt over it.

Lemon juice and salt will clean copper and brass.

To brighten carpets, wring a cloth out of salt and water and rub the carpet well.

Handfuls of salt will clean saucepans and take away the unpleasant smell of onions if they have been cooked in them.

Ink stains that are freshly made can be removed from a carpet by successive applications of dry salt.

Nearly every kind of basket work, matting or china, can be cleaned by washing with salt and water.

Tiles will look quite bright and clean if scrubbed with salt.

### FANCY BRASSIERES

The brassiere no longer comes as a plain net accessory of the corset. The new ones are so elaborate that they answer the purpose of both corset and brassiere and are shaped very carefully in the seams and by means of darts. Ribbon plays an important part in the making and a stout satin ribbon about seven inches wide is dartsed to fit across the bust for a brassiere to be worn with the low cut evening gown.

It passes under the arms, where narrow ribbon laces it to the similar width of ribbon in the back. The back ribbons cross and taper to narrowing points which pass over each shoulder and faster with snaps or fancy pins in front. Feather stitching may finish off this ribbon girdle or a narrow edge of lace may be used.

FUNERAL BOUQUET AND DESIGNS  
JOHN RECK & SON